

Library Bond Act Grant Applications - Cycle 1 Individual Application Summary

<i>Project Name [Number]</i>	Springstowne Library 1037	<i>Current Square Footage</i>	3,024
<i>Applicant</i>	Vallejo, City of	<i>Project Square Footage</i>	36,000
<i>Operating Library Jurisdiction</i>	Solano County Library	<i>Service Area Population:</i>	39,973
<i>Project Type</i>	New Library		
<i>Project Priority</i>	1st	<i>Anticipated Construction Start Date:</i>	6/1/2004
<i>Joint Use Type</i>	Joint Venture		
<i>Multipurpose?</i>	NO	<i>Total Project Amount</i>	\$18,393,140
<i>Leased Site:</i>	NO	<i>State Grant Amount</i>	\$11,864,541

Bond Act Factors [California Code of Regulations Title 5, Section 19998 (a)]

	Rated	Other
<i>Needs of urban and rural areas:</i>		[see map]
<i>Population growth:</i>		48%
<i>Financial capacity of applicant to open and maintain operation of the library (new libraries only):</i>		Yes
<i>Age and condition of existing library:</i>	Poor Condition (= Very Good)	
<i>Inadequacy of the existing library in meeting needs of residents and the response of proposed project to meeting the needs:</i>	Very Good	
<i>Plan of Service integrates appropriate electronic technology:</i>	Very Good	
<i>Appropriateness of proposed site for the proposed project:</i>	Very Good	
Overall Rating:		Very Good

Summary of Review Panel Comments

Population Growth 47.5%

Age and Condition The existing library was built in 1957 and renovated in 1985. While structurally adequate, the facility has inadequate space to provide an appropriate level of library service for the community. There is no parking dedicated to library use.

Needs of residents/response of proposed project to needs The needs assessment utilized several methods to obtain input from the community, including focus groups, surveys, a patron mapping project, as well as a customer satisfaction survey. The school district was involved in the planning process from the early stages by including faculty and principals in stakeholder interviews and by creating a joint use project working group comprised of representatives from the library and the school district. The conclusion of the working group was that a computer center and a family literacy center were both needed, but neither is substantiated by the needs assessment. Demographic statistics are well presented and, with the exception noted, it appears that logical conclusions were drawn from the data analysis.

The plan of service is not reflective of the needs assessment findings. The services are described in general terms, without an implementation plan. Service indicators primarily use statistics that will not provide a qualitative measurement. The plan of service includes a discussion of types of services to be provided and addresses the provision of a computer center for student training where teachers will bring classes and teach. The center will be available to the public when not used by the school district.

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The building program provides for the basic service needs. Spaces are generally described, and adjacencies appear for most areas. There are no adjacencies mentioned for the collections, which could cause staff efficiency problems. The program essentially meets the needs of a typical modern public library. There is a Technology Training Room with 30 computers for classroom and general public computer literacy training.

The conceptual plans follow the building program concerning the adjacencies and most spaces. However, the square footages in several high-use areas are less than was programmed (e.g., self-check out area, meeting room storage, circulation desk, and picture books). Total non-assignable square footage is not included on the floor plan.

Joint use agreement: Family Literacy Center This agreement represents a partnership between the library and the school district to provide computer learning activities and literacy programming. The needs assessment and plan of service appear to imply that there will be separate physical spaces for a family literacy center and a computer center, but this is not the case. This represents a continuation and expansion of the current, successful joint venture family literacy activities, which are primarily ESOL activities. While funding is mentioned only in terms of services and participation, the agreement demonstrates participation by both parties. The school district will provide free childcare for CBET parents while they participate in family literacy activities.

Plan of Service Integrates Appropriate Technology The needs assessment indicates the intent to provide laptop-ready reader tables throughout the library and to provide wiring/cabling to support additional telecommunication in the future, including wireless technology. The meeting rooms will provide PC projection capability and Internet access. However, the building program contains a generalized statement about the need for additional capacity for telecommunications and individual space sheets don't follow through with the technology concepts.

Appropriateness of Proposed Site The proposed site is located in the Springstowne Shopping Center, which is situated at the intersection of two major thoroughfares and located at both the geographic and population center for the community. The site is accessible by public and private transportation, by bicycle, and by foot. It is within walking and biking distance for 5 public schools and surrounding residential areas. The library will be located in an existing shopping center and has determined that more than ample parking is available. In addition, library and retail peak hours differ, minimizing potential parking conflict. The site selection process involved residents and public school representatives in addition to library and city staff, all of which concurred on the selection of the proposed site. The shape of the site somewhat limits the design solutions for the project, but that is outweighed by other desirable site features.

Financial Capacity The applicant has committed to the on-going operation of the completed library.